

MORONGO BASIN TRANSIT AUTHORITY

**Facilities & Real Estate Advisory Ad Hoc**

Tuesday, November 17, 2020 3:00PM

Morongo Basin Transit Facility

62405 Verbena Road

Joshua Tree, CA 92252

Via ZOOM Teleconference

**MINUTES**

**1.0 CALL TO ORDER** – Called to order at 3:00pm by Mark Goodale

**ROLL CALL** - On call of the roll the following were present: Merl Abel, McArthur Wright and Mark Goodale.

**2.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS**

NONE

**3.0 NEW BUSINESS**

**3.1 Land Acquisition**

Mark Goodale updated the Ad Hoc Committee on receiving confirmation from the City Manager that the City Council has given him direction to proceed with starting the process for eminent domain to potentially acquire the properties then sell them to the MBTA. This meeting provided the committee an opportunity to discuss any base parameters to present to the Board when the time comes to purchase that land from the City.

Board Member Abel inquired if staff sought counsel's opinion regarding any legalities that could prohibit the type of exchange occurring between the agencies. Mark Goodale responded that he received an answer from counsel and that there would be nothing prohibiting it. Mark asked for confirmation from Board Member Wright and he concurred.

Mark said he really wasn't sure what type of discussion there would be with the City when it came to negotiating a price with the City for the exception of staffs already authorized limits. However, Mark assumed the City would want to recoup any additional costs associated with eminent domain. Board Member Wright stated that the City wouldn't be interested in making a profit and would sell to MBTA at their cost of acquisition.

It was recommended by Board Member Abel that staff bring to the board for comments and direction, potentially authorizing staff to advise the City of Twentynine Palms to proceed with the eminent domain process with staff under the current authorized limits. Board Member Wright concurred.

#### 4.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark Goodale, Board Secretary